AGRICULTURE IN ACTION -- August 24, 1943

IN ACTION

ELECTIONS. County and community committeeman elections are coming up soon in most regions. North Central date is October 1. This is a year when every effort must be made to see that qualified men will accept the work of committeemen. There is no monetary attraction to these jobs, admittedly. Yet the jobs this year are perhaps as important as any other war work in the United States. Both in getting farmers out to participate and vote in these elections, and in seeing that qualified men accept their elected positions, it will be necessary to call upon their patriotism. Although the committee work entails time spent away from their own farms and further lengthens an already long working day, it is work that must be done. It is work done by farmers for farmers, and is a patriotic responsibility that must be discharged.

EGG BASKET. WFA is continuing into 1944 the Southern Egg Marketing Program and extending it to Texas and Oklahoma, along with the 12 states in which it operated last year. Program points include (1) provide price support needed to encourage adequate production; (2) facilitate getting eggs for Government needs; (3) encourage better marketing methods in Southern states.

WOOLIES TO WAR. Wool fat....a grease extracted from wool....is used by industry and in medicine and in cosmetics. Beginning September 1, WFA will say how much shall go to which use. Supplies are short because of limited machinery for domestic production and elimination of imports. Greatest need for wool fat is as a rust preventive and leather processing agent.

MORE CHICKS. BAE says commercial hatcheries reported a record output of chicks for July....52% larger than the July, 1942, output. July chick production is a small part of the annual output, but the reported increase indicates a stronger than usual demand for chicks for this time of year.

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TURKEYS TIGHTENED. WFA has moved to stop all further civilian use of turkeys after August 21 and until the armed forces' demand for 10 million pounds of turkeys for overseas shipment is met. The order does not affect turkeys in storage before August 2.

WHALE INTO TURKEY. Calling a bird a "whale of a turkey" may be a particularly apt description this year. Around 5,000 tons of whale tankage from the Falkland Islands will be made available to turkey feeders in the heavy turkey producing states.

ANIMAL PROTEIN PICTURE. Imports already accomplished and imports in prospect (including fish meal, liver meal, whale tankage) make the animal protein picture look a bit rosier. Use of the imports will be confined largely to poultry areas which are farthest from domestic supplies.

IN CLOVER. Production of white clover seed this year, forecast by BAE at 2,080,000 pounds of clean seed, is the largest on record. It compares with last year's previous record crop of 1,890,000 pounds and the five-year (1937-41) average of 684,000 pounds.

BOATS BECALMED. The shipping situation is still tight on the West Coast. Despite all efforts, it has not been possible to get boats to move wheat for feed from West Canada ports to the California area. Department has been turned down by War Shipping Administration, but is making another bid for boats.

RELIEF SHIPMENTS OF CORN AND HAY: The flow of corn, given impetus by AAA committeemen contacts with corn belt farmers, is beginning to reach drought areas in Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and West Virginia. Vitally needed hay is expected soon from Pennsylvania and Ohio, and then from midwestern states such as Nebraska and Kansas, if necessary.

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Drouth Emergency meeting in Washington on August 18. A committee, chosen at the meeting, held follow-up conferences with J. B. Hutson, president of Commodity Credit Corporation, on August 23 and 24. Hutson indicated that provisions would be made for sufficient hay at a reasonable price to maintain milk production in the eastern area and that an attempt would be made to provide at least a minimum of 200,000 tons of needed hay. Although final plans had not been announced up to Tuesday noon, August 24, Department officials expected the Southern States Cooperative to handle distribution for the bulk of incoming hay.

During the August 18 meeting, conferees pointed out that Maryland was "shy" between 7 and 8 inches of rainfall and that the state would possibly suffer an agricultural drouth loss of approximately 15 million dollars; that about 20 counties in Virginia were seriously affected and that about 50,000 tons of hay would have to be brought in for use in the 12 "worst" counties, alone; that Delaware faced a severe commercial feed shortage and farmers were fast liquidating their livestock; and that a relatively small area in West Virginia was affected by the drouth. Department officials attending the emergency meeting included, in addition to Mr. Hutson, Under Secretary Grover B. Hill and N. E. Dodd, AAA Administrator.

STRIKING OIL. Government order was: Raise ceiling prices of high protein feeds in line with other feeds; processors set aside remaining supply of oilseed meal produced from 1942 crops....Commodity Credit Corporation to purchase the meal at old ceiling prices and sell at the new ceiling.

BRIEFLY: Commodity Credit Corporation was permitted to buy 1942 oilseed meal carryover at the old ceiling price and sell it at the new (and higher) ceiling price. Criticism was: "Windfall profits will accrue to the Government!" Fact was: The difference in price would offset only to a small degree the much larger sums the Federal Government had put out last year to keep oil and meal

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During the August 16 meeting, conferees pointed out that Maryland was "dry" between 7 and 8 inches of rainfall and that the state would possibly suffer an agricultural drought loss of approximately 16 million dollars; that about 20 counties in Virginia were seriously affected and that about 80,000 tons of hay would have to be brought in for use in the 12 "worst" counties, alone; that Delaware faced a severe commercial feed shortage and farmers were fast liquidating their livestock; and that a relatively small area in West Virginia was affected by the drought. Department officials attending the emergency meeting included, in addition to Mr. Hutson, Under Secretary Grover B. Hill and H. E. Dodd, AAA Administrator.

SPERRING OIL. Government order was: Raise ceiling prices of high protein feeds in line with other feeds; processors set aside remaining supply of cottonseed meal produced from 1942 crops....Commodity Credit Corporation to purchase the meal at old ceiling prices and sell at the new ceiling.

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prices at relatively low levels. Last year, despite difficulties, Government supported prices to farmers at higher levels than in 1941....and prices for meal and cake were maintained at low levels in comparison with other feed, to stimulate production of livestock products. Costs to the Government, including shipping of soybeans for crushing to Southern, Eastern and Western mills for crushing, amounted to more than $28 million through June 30 of this year.

ADDITIONAL FACTS: No meal from this transaction has been distributed through Commodity Credit Corporation....not one ton. The processor still has this meal in his regular channels. No meal has been distributed through CCC; CCC simply bought the meal at the old ceiling, then sold it to the trade at the new ceiling.... taking the increase in price to partially offset losses sustained through shipping at such low prices last year.

AND: the set-aside action placed all consumers and crushers on the same price level with respect to meal delivered after August 1. It avoided the necessity of enforcing ceiling prices at two levels on the same commodity. It prevented some mills from charging higher prices on new crop meal at the same time that other mills would be forced to sell at old ceiling prices....with resulting confusion and charges of favoritism.

FUTURE FOR FEED. Here's what IN THE MAKING the contemplated action, not yet official, is to take care of meal needs this year. To be sure to get all the oil seed off the farms....to be sure the oil badly needed for war uses will be obtained.... present thinking is to guarantee the farmer he'll get the meal he needs if he'll sell the seeds on the market.

Under this plan, the farmer selling his crop would get a priority form and the buyer of the crop would certify the amount of seed he bought from the farmer. Then the county AAA committee would certify the farmer for the LESSER of (a) all

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That's the action that's being contemplated. Object, plainly and simply, is to get the oil for war needs by making sure the seeds get to market by assuring the farmer he'll get needed meal for feed.

IMPORTED MEAL. Most of the cottonseed meal (some 50,000 tons) imported from Brazil will probably be used in the eastern part of the United States....in the feed deficit area of New England and the drought ridden east central section. This will save drawing on our own feed producing areas for domestic feed that is needed badly where it is produced.

Similarly, our flaxseed, imported from Canada and South America, will also be used in the east. That will allow some of our cott onseed meal to flow north and west, where it is needed, and will call for less of a drain of meal from the bean crop coming on in the Corn Belt.

Hope is to keep an orderly flow of meal to points where it is needed, when it is needed, by using supplies as they are available.

ORDERLY FLOW. To continue to keep meal flowing in an orderly fashion, the following plan has been discussed and has received favorable attention: A farmer-purchaser now gets only a 30-day supply of meal at a time.....unless he has habitually bought in ton or car load lots, or in the case of a range man who must get in his entire year's supply before the heavy storms. Now, added to this same plan the processor would not be able to commit his meal for more than 60 days in advance of production, and would be required to hold 10% of this until the 20th of the month for WFA. Processors would report to WFA by states

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or areas on their sales, and buyers in turn would report to WFA how much of this meal was re-shipped by them over state or area lines. General thinking is that this would keep supplies fairly distributed, according to needs. State or Area War Board Industry committees might be set up to handle this.

FIELD HELP. Commodity Credit Corporation is having two War Board chairmen in from each of the regions for a meeting August 30 and 31 to discuss ways of handling the oil meals for this year.

NO COUPONS FOR MILK. Mrs. Housewife will have no worry about coupons in regard to milk rationing. If local shortages of fluid milk should develop because of wartime conditions, whatever type of rationing might be temporarily required would not involve the use by housewives of ration coupons.

GRASS ROOT GOALS. Tentative plans call for each state to determine how much of needed crops and commodities it can produce; then an addition of the state calculations to determine national goals. Several ~~of~~ teams of AAA and other WFA representatives will visit (two or three-day meetings) the states, beginning the first week in September. They will tell State War Boards and other state representatives the size of prospective 1944 needs. State folks will then huddle to see how much of each commodity their state can produce in 1944. Meetings are expected to be finished by October 20, at which time War Food Administrator Marvin Jones will be able to announce national goals. Subsequent mobilization programs to obtain desired goals in each state will be planned at state and county levels. Seems likely the question of farm plan sign-ups will be left up to each state.

IN CONCLUSION

HOW ABOUT HOGS? Reports current a short time ago were that hogs would get a ceiling of $14.75 about August 15. Nevertheless, hogs were $15.05 August 24 at Chicago. How come? What with one thing and another, order on ceiling hadn't

gone out. Present indications are that an order carrying the same figure is due around September 1. Thinking may (as it has in the past) change overnight, but this is the latest indication.

CURED SWEET POTATOES. Watch for announcement of a potato support price. Plan now is to assure farmers (on cured sweet potatoes) a minimum of $1.50 per bushel for U. S. No. 1 or better grade cured sweet potatoes properly packed in bushel crates, baskets or hampers and offered during January, and $1.65 per bushel beginning February 1, 1944. Price (cured or uncured) of $1.15 per bushel through November 30 and $1.30 through December 31 will remain unchanged. Prices of U. S. No. 2 sweet potatoes containing not less than 75% of No. 1 quality will be 15 cents per bushel less than the above prices.

IRISH POTATOES. Another scheduled announcement is: Loans on Irish potatoes will be based on the support prices announced for each producing area last spring. Loans will be made to growers and coops on potatoes in approved warehouses at the local support price for the fall months, less 35 cents a hundred to cover the costs of grading, sacking and loading on cars. The loans will be on field run potatoes at rates adjusted for the percentage of U. S. No. 1 quality potatoes in the lot. To cover storage costs and losses the support prices will be increased above the fall rates by 20 cents per hundred pounds on December 1 and by 10 cents per hundred pounds on January 1. Dealers and shippers who buy from growers at the support prices during the fall and winter months will be given non-recourse loans based on the support prices. All loans will be callable in whole or in part on demand and a sufficient volume will be called from time to time to ensure the movement of the 1943 crop by the time the 1944 crop becomes available.

SPUD STORAGE. Storage space for potatoes is still something to look for. It's not something we have. Big hope is that potatoes will be put into the right kind

of storage. Point is, naturally, that it does no good to store potatoes in the fall if they come out in the spring not fit to eat. So, a continuing thing for committeemen to watch will be the storage of the potato crop.

WHEAT CEILINGS CONSIDERED: The Office of Price Administration has recently been considering specific ceilings on sales of soft wheat in 34 States and the District of Columbia---this territory accounting for approximately 25 to 30 percent of the total U. S. wheat crop (and about 80 to 90 percent of the nation's soft wheat production). Soft wheat is used chiefly in the milling of flour for cakes, pastry, cookies, crackers, biscuits and related bakery products. No definite Department statements on the probability of such ceilings and their potential provisions are immediately available.

TO BE EDITED FOR
REGIONAL USE

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

August 31, 1943

FOR GENERAL USE

PROTEIN FEED MEETING. About 65 representatives from the industry and government attended a protein feed meeting in the Department on Aug. 30 and 31. Purpose of the meeting was to discuss several proposed orders regarding oil seed and oil seed meal, and to consider a program for using most efficiently the meal supply which is expected to be available for the 12 months beginning Oct. 1, 1943. Although no program has been officially announced, conferees discussed such points as:

1. Determining each State's share of the estimated monthly meal production from all indications, based on estimated actual consumption of meal by livestock in the State.

2. Regular monthly reports on production and distribution by processors, jobbers and grinders.

3. Direction of meal shipments by appropriate processors for deficiency or emergency needs---from meal to be set aside for that purpose.

State USDA War Board chairmen attending included Porter Hardy of Virginia, Fred L. O'Cheskney of New Mexico, Al Loveland of Iowa, J. Ralph Graham of New Hampshire, and Elmer Kruse of Ohio.

CANADIAN WHEAT. Reports are that the 7½ million bushels of wheat Commodity Credit Corporation purchased from Canada is getting into the hands of farmers who need it for feed. It's being shipped to where it is needed, both by boat and rail. Indications are that CCC will buy more Canadian wheat for feed.

The North East region reports that (with minor interruptions) farmers in those states are obtaining the wheat for feed pretty well as they need it. The wheat is ready to be moved at Georgian Bay ports; it's coming through Buffalo as fast as needed; it's moving down the lakes at the rate of about two million bushels a month, and at about the same rate by rail. This leaves North East in as favorable a position in regard to wheat as any other area in the country.

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CUSTOM COMBINES. Reports from the continuous grain areas are that custom combines helped greatly in this year's harvest. Something like 700 operated in South Dakota. Most of the combine work in North Dakota was in finishing up. Harvest in both the Dakotas came on so close together this year that the custom crews were late coming in for the North Dakota work. More custom crews could have been used in Montana and through the Wyoming area. Kansas reports show that around 1,000 combines were sold and moved north after the Kansas harvest was completed.

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MORE ON POTATOES. Every effort is being made to make procedure on potato loans and storage as simple and direct as possible. Under the regulations, not only the farmer, but also dealers, co-ops and associations can receive loans. But to receive the same loan as is available to farmers, dealers, co-ops or associations must have paid the farmer the grower support price.

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PUSHING PRIORITIES. State and County War Board Representatives met in Rhode Island, New Hampshire and Maine during the latter part of August with War Production Board regional representatives. Object: to study problems causing delay in fulfilling farmer applications for production items requiring priority. Other state meetings will be held soon.

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ENGINES STARTING. WFA was recently granted authority to assign AA-2 Preference Ratings for delivery of 37,000 gas engines of 20 horsepower or less, for general farm use. No state or county quotas are anticipated. These are strictly for farm production use, and farmers wanting engines can apply to County War Boards for Preference Ratings.

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CORN CORN CLOSING. Final figure on the amount of corn moved through the efforts of AAA community committeemen was 30,584,000 bushels. WFA Administrator Jones was right when he said moving the corn into market was work for "men who are out where the corn is."

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WINTER COVER. Total production of vetch, ryegrass and crimson-clover seed (off 23% from 1942) compares with a 16% increase in Austrian Winter Peas. Total production of these winter cover crop seeds if forecast at 2% below the 1942 record, but 2 4/5 times the 1937-41 average.

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WHEAT SITUATION. United States wheat supplies for 1943-44 are second only to the record supply of 1942-43, but prospects are that disappearance will be so large that supplies by July 1, 1944, will be reduced to 250 million bushels.... a minimum desirable carryover. Chief reasons for this abnormally large disappearance are (1) wheat for feed and (2) wheat for synthetic rubber and smokeless powder.

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SLAUGHTER SYSTEM. Government's new meat slaughtering system doesn't much affect farmers. If you have a slaughter permit, the new regulations don't charge the amount you can sell. If you don't have a permit, you can establish a quota based on your 1941 slaughter. If you don't have a permit and can't establish your 1941 slaughter, your slaughter must limited to home consumption, but the War Board may give you a quota that will permit you to sell the surplus of such slaughter (But not in excess of 400 pounds of dressed meat).

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FOR COMMITTEEMEN'S USE ONLY

COTTON QUOTAS. Justification for abandonment of cotton quotas has been collected into one docket that will be signed in next two or three weeks. There will be no announcement in form of press release, because this subject has already been taken up in releases of July 10 and July 13. However, the reasoning in the docket, together with other new facts on the cotton situation, will be combined in a background piece to appear soon.

ALFALFA SEED. State War Boards will be asked shortly to encourage the saving of alfalfa seed, in States where the payment of $3.50 per acre is made. They are: Western Region; and Minnesota, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Michigan and Oklahoma. Payments are made on acreages up to 15 except in California where six is the maximum. Demands for this seed are expected to overshoot supplies unless the bulk of this year's crop is harvested.

BURLEY VOTE. Marketing quotas for burley tobacco will be proclaimed some time after September 30. The referendum will be held within 30 days after the proclamation. Major producing states: Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia. Minor producing states: Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Oklahoma and South Carolina.

LIME NOT SPREAD. Liming materials as a conservation material will not be delivered on a spread-on-field basis. Reason: if liming materials are delivered on spread-on-field basis, it limits delivery times to when fields are ready. If delivered to farms whenever possible, it can be left in piles and spread later, when fields are ready. This does away with peak rush orders encountered in past. Production and delivery of lime have been falling off this year. Since all land is in crops that can be placed in production, urge now is to step up per-acreage production. That's what WFA and AAA, plus advisors from the producers' end of the liming business, are studying right now.....with the hope that production and delivery of liming materials will be raised at least to the 1942 level.

PAYMENT PROCEDURE. North Central will have two men in the field the first two weeks in September, explaining instructions and forms in connection with procedure on 1943 payments. It's hoped county instruction can start right after September 15.

FACTS ON FRUIT. Assuming continuation of favorable growing conditions for citrus fruit, total U. S. fruit production during the 1943-44 season will be about 11% smaller than last year.

TO BE EDITED FOR
REGIONAL USE

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

September 7, 1943

FOR GENERAL USE

KISSING TO KILLING

Conserve your beeswax. Beeswax, before Pearl Harbor, was used extensively in the manufacture of lipsticks. It also went into cold creams, rouge and deodorants. But beeswax got out of the luxury business after Pearl Harbor and obtained a job in a number of essential war industries.

More than a million pounds of beeswax a year are needed for war products....in adhesive tape used for sealing shells; as waterproofing and protective coatings for shells, belts coils and machinery (especially when such equipment is shipped into warm climates where ordinary grease would run off) and as protective coverings for our fighting planes.

Because mildew does not affect it, beeswax is more satisfactory for waterproofing canvas than paraffin. It's used in war plants to wax pulleys and cables, in polishes and in improving insulation. Soldiers and sailors need a lot of it in connection with dental work.

Beeswax has only one war-essential use as a cosmetic. Rangers and Commandos use it in camouflage makeup for their faces and hands, to prevent their being seen by the enemy.

Beeswax, with a war on, has turned from kissing to killing.

MEET ON MEETINGS. North Central will hold AAA community election meetings as soon as farmer-committee men can give their neighbors a complete picture of the 1944 production responsibilities....probably in November or early December. State Committees will set dates. All community meetings within a state will be held the same day, with county conventions scheduled the following day.

CHICK RECORD. Late reports show the 2,712 hatcheries cooperating in the National Poultry Improvement Plan produced nearly half a billion chicks of U. S. Approved Pullorum Tested, or higher, quality during the 1942-43 hatchery season, now about over. This output breaks all previous records.

KEEP THOSE CHICKENS. WFA poultry authorities, admitting the feed situation will probably remain very tight, still advise keeping small backyard flocks of chickens where at least a third of the feed comes from table scraps. Properly managed backyard flocks of around 20 birds are efficient producers of meat and eggs.

WHAT ABOUT THE MEAL AND CAKE PROGRAM

Details of a comprehensive program to support prices to farmers and to facilitate processing of 1943-crop soybeans and cottonseed, and to obtain the most efficient use of meal and cake for livestock feeding are expected to be announced soon. The details probably will be included in Commodity Credit Corporation Orders No. 6 and 7 and a revised Food Production Order No. 9.

The cost of the program to the Government is expected to be considerably less than the cost of handling 1942-crop oilseeds.

Government and industry representatives seek to prevent hoarding of supplies at any point from the processor to the feeder level; to assure each state or area of a proportionate share of production; and to meet unusual situation (or "bare spots") which develop suddenly.

(Several moves already made have aided the feed situation: (1) The feed industry adopted a voluntary program under which it agreed to limit the protein levels of its feed to the minimum which will still permit effective production of livestock; and (2) On July 31, the OPA paved the way for elimination of some wasteful feeding and inefficient use of oilseed meals by adjusting prices of oilseed meals so as to effect a more normal relationship in prices of these meal to prices of other feeds and to prices of livestock products).

A committee of the feed industry, working closely with USDA officials, has estimated that the supply of available proteins in 1943 will be approximately 80 percent of the livestock requirements as related to the 1943 goals.

In light of this situation, Government and industry representatives at a protein feed meeting in Washington on Aug. 30-31 made several recommendations (which are not mandatory under FPO No. 9, revised) including:

(1) That each State's share of the monthly meal production should be determined. (Meal used in the manufacture of mixed feeds would be credited to the State in which the mixed feed is fed and not the the State in which the feed is mixed).

(2) That processors, jobbers and grinders would report to the War Food Administration by the 10th of the month their production and sales, together with the States or areas to which they shipped their production during the preceding month.

(3) That shipments for the preceding month for a State or area would be compared with the share of total production based on livestock needs, and emergency needs would be met by directed shipments by appropriate processors. These shipments would come from meal set aside fro this purpose--- possibly 10 percent (or X percent).

(4) State USDA War Boards would be informed by the WFA of the amount of meal designated for them and the names of the processors who would ship it. The War Boards would inform the processors of the names of dealers who had been designated to receive shipments. The actual transaction would be carried out directly between the processor and the dealer.

Any participation by FPA in a distribution program will be through State USDA War Boards, assisted by advisory committees of the feed industry.

FARM MACHINERY. The 1944 farm machinery distribution program, still under discussion, will again seek to place new farm machinery where it will do the most good in war production of food. Prospects for supply are for 80% of the 1940 level, or about twice as much as was authorized for 1943. Despite improved prospects, it's still necessary to get the most use possible out of existing equipment. And, just to remind you, restrictions have been removed on the manufacture of repair parts....with the exception of those for crawler tractors. Check your equipment this fall and get your orders in early so repair parts can be delivered and installed before the ~~xxxx~~ equipment is needed for operation in the spring.

FOR COMMITTEEMEN'S USE ONLY

TURKEY TEST. The Army, to date, has obtained about a third of the 10 million pounds of turkeys needed for shipment to fighting men overseas. It still hopes to get the full 10 million pounds by October 1, but prospects aren't as bright as they were. Farmers are cooperating, but things seem bogged down somewhere between the farm and the Army. FPA's embargo on turkeys will remain in effect, however, until the 10 million pounds are obtained. This is an order that all turkeys not in storage before August 2 must go to the Army. This should take care of overseas needs, but won't do much toward furnishing turkey for the Thanksgiving, and Christmas dinners of servicemen stationed here in the United States. Army is afraid once embargo is lifted Black Market dealings will spring up again. Poultrymen, who got their fingers burned and pocketbooks injured when the Army stopped and requisitioned broilers by the truck load in Delaware, closed out Black Market turkey operations overnight when the FPA embargo went on. But the Army thinks it probable Black Marketing could be resumed as facilely as it was abandoned.

There is a market in most areas close to all farmers. However, in a few isolated areas, farmers may be some distance from a market where they can sell to the army. In such areas, farmers with only a few birds to sell (five to 10 birds ready for market now) should pool with their neighbors to get enough together to send to market.

MORE ON MEAL. CCC Order No. 6, now in the process of clearance, provides a support price of $1.80 per bushel for No. 2 grade green and yellow soybeans. No manufacturer or seed dealer could buy or accept delivery of 1943 soybeans in a quantity which, taken in conjunction with his existing supply, would be in excess of his manufacturing and seed sales requirements for the period ending Oct. 10, 1944. There is a prohibition on the purchase and use of soybeans for feed or fertilizer. The sale of soybean flour and soybean grits for use as feed would be prohibited.

Officials estimate that the maximum quantity of soybeans which CCC will own at any time as a result of purchases from producers, processors, etc. will not exceed 50 million bushels.

CCC Order No. 7, also in the process of clearance, has many similarities which CCC OrderNo. 6 in regard to restrictions on purchase and use.

Among other things, Food Production Order No. 9, revised, prohibits any person from placing or accepting a purchase order, or accepting delivery under a

purchase order for oilseed meal, which does not require delivery to be completed within 60 days.

During the Aug. 30-31 protein feed meeting in Washington, the problem of encouraging the largest possible volume of oilseeds to move into commercial channels for crushing was given a great deal of attention. One proposal involved a procedure for giving oilseed producers first call on available meal supplies, but the proposal was tabled---temporarily, at least--because many of those present felt it might tie up disproportionate amounts of the available supply.

FARM FERTILIZER. The fertilizer situation looks a little improved for 1944. For the 12 months ending July 1, 1943, farmers used about 10½ million tons of chemical fertilizers. Over-all, about 10% more is expected to be available for the 1943-44 crop season. There will be about 40% more nitrogen, 15% more superphosphate, but less potash. Distribution program is designed to give maximum assistance in production of feed and food crops and make fertilizer available according to a farmer's crop requirements. Priority is given on a group of A crops....which includes peanuts, sugar beets used for seed production, hemp, hybrid corn for seed production, dry and snap beans, lima beans, cabbage, carrots, onions, green peas, dry edible peas, potatoes (including sweet potatoes), sweet corn for processing, tomatoes and vegetable seeds. Other crops are classified in a group B list.

FENCING. Probably about as much (maybe a little more) field fence will be available as in 1943. Barbed wire production will probably be near normal levels. Poultry netting will be about 30 % below the 1941 level, but some light weight poultry fence will be produced for use in place of poultry netting.

TO BE EDITED FOR
REGIONAL USE

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

September 14, 1943

FOR GENERAL USE

KEEPING UP WITH HOGS. WFA continues to emphasize the need for a better balance between hog numbers and feed supplies in order to maintain needed dairy and egg production. Last week Associate Food Administrator J. R. Dutson said a reduction of 20% is desired in 1944 pig farrowings....100 million pigs in 1944 vs. 125 million expected in 1943. WFA hopes to keep 1944 spring farrowings at 61 million pigs, about the same as 1942 and 13 million less than 1943.

Latest actions by WFA and OPA on minimum and maximum prices for hogs are major steps in the program to adjust production to feed supplies. OPA-announced ceiling of $14.75 per cwt., Chicago basis, is scheduled to take effect October 4, 1943. Appropriate price differentials are provided for interior markets and buying stations. WFA-announced price support of $12.50 per cwt., Chicago basis, for 200-240 pound butchers begins October 1, 1944 and runs to March 31, 1945. Current support price of $13.75 expires September 30, 1944.

These actions are in line with forthcoming WFA suggestions that hog producers keep two million fewer sows for farrowing next spring than in the spring of 1943. If this reduction is made, it should result in even larger marketings of hogs this fall and winter than previously anticipated and thereby increase supplies of pork during this period.

However, total supply of pork for the next 12 months is likely to be less than if no reduction was made in the number of sows farrowed. This would be because most of the gilts not held back for farrowing next spring will be sold for slaughter at 200-25 pound weights. If kept for farrowing and then sent to market next summer, the weights would be at least 300 pounds.

ELECTIONS AGAIN. Northeast farmers will elect their community committeemen in their nine states December 1. County committee elections will be held on a date selected by state committees, sometime between December 1 and January 1.

RATIONING MILK. Here are the boiled-down facts behind the WFA plan to regulate fluid milk sales through dealer quotas:

Reason: Stimulated by greater purchasing power and shortages of other foods, the consumption of fluid milk and cream this year is rising 10% above that of 1942, which in turn was 10% above 1941. Consequently, 1943 production of evaporated milk, cheese and dried skim milk....all urgently needed in increasing quantities for military and Lend-Lease purposes....is expected to be as much as 20% below last year.

Method: WFA will establish milk sales areas to be administered by market agents. Expenses will be met by assessments upon milk handlers. Quota details

will vary according to local conditions but, in general, quotas will be based on sales during recent months. It is hoped to hold fluid milk consumption to levels of the first half of this year. Supplies for the armed forces and certain governmental agencies will be quota-exempt.

Aims: To maintain the production of enough manufactured dairy products for essential wartime needs; to insure fair distribution of milk and its products to civilians; to prevent disruptive price bidding for milk in shortage areas.

Initial application of the plan will come very soon in urban areas where production-supply troubles have been greatest.

COTTON RECORDS. In the past, cotton production records have served as a basis for determining yields used in marketing quota programs, crop insurance programs and in determining AAA payments. These records this year will not be available from ginners, due to the suspension of marketing quotas. Farmers, therefore, are being asked this year to keep each gin ticket, bale receipt, or sales ticket for baled cotton and for lots of seed cotton sold. AAA county offices will keep these records for those who bring them in.

FIELD GOAL. Each succeeding crop report emphasizes more pronouncedly the remarkable manner in which farmers are performing the war production job they were asked to do last spring. The September crop report shows virtually every goal being met 90% or better despite the tremendous increases asked in critical crops, and despite production handicaps.

Indicated production is running 90% or better of the goals for 12 of the 16 principal crops. In the cases of the four crops falling below goal marks (rye, barley, peanuts and sweet potatoes) indicated production for peanuts is 27% above last year and for sweet potatoes, 10%. Both had sharply increased goals over 1941. Rye and barley haven't been regarded as critical crops and in some areas have had to yield land to more urgently needed crops.

AAA committeemen can take well earned bows not only for helping to expand the total indicated harvested acreage 2% above that of 1941 but also for helping farmers to balance their production to get the essential crops needed to back up our armed forces. A study of seven critical crops reveals that, in comparison with last year's production, indicated production for flaxseed is up 33%; soybeans for beans, about the same as last year; peanuts, up 27%, dry beans, up 17%; dry peas up 32%; Irish potatoes, up 24%; sweet potatoes, up 10%.

"AND PASS THE AMMUNITION" More shells and cartridges for folks who need them. That's the word received by the State War Boards. And, besides getting a quota, farmers now also have the assurance they will be able to find the shells on the dealer's shelf when they come in to buy them. Chances are they will be in the retail stores by about September 20. The new program calls for 100 million ~~[illegible]~~ shotgun shells, 12 million center-fire rifle cartridges and 100 million rim-fire .22 shells for civilians, with distribution through regular trade channels. To get a special quota (farmers formerly received quarterly allotments of shells) get "Certificate no. 5". Local retail dealers will have them.

The farmer's bullet that drops the coyote right around home saves meat for the boys who are killing coyotes across the seas.

VICTORY SCRAP. The War Production Board has asked that War Boards cooperate with them again this year in a victory scrap campaign which will be launched October 1 with national publicity. The program will last for the rest of the year, but the drive is for 6 weeks -- until November 15. While last year's campaign was to meet immediate need for scrap steel, this year's will be built around "scrap banks" -- a "steel" version of our familiar ever-normal granary. Object will be to establish a bank in every community to keep a continuous scrap supply moving to shipbuilders, airplane manufacturers, and munitions makers as it is needed. As the bank diminishes, citizens will be asked to build it up again. A memo will soon go out to war boards asking that they participate actively in making the drive a success.

TEMPORARY MEASURE. We formerly imported most of our menthol from Japan, but indications are that we will continue for a short time to be cut off from that source of supply. Since oil of peppermint is an important source of menthol, all United States stocks have been ordered set aside by WFA for government action. This, of course, is only a temporary measure and will no doubt be voided as soon as our trouble in obtaining imports from Japan is eliminated at its source.

FOR COMMITTEEMEN'S USE ONLY

PRODUCTION GOALS. National statistical date for guidance of states in working out their individual 1944 production goals are about ready for mailing to the field. (Should hit there by end of this week). Present plans call for a meeting of State War Board members and others for a preliminary recommendation of production figures by commodities. Then the same groups will meet with "teams" from Washington, starting in October, to fix final State goals.

LABOR SHORTAGE. General picture is that labor shortage won't be so bad this harvest as a lot of people cracked it up to be. What shortage there will be will be in highly localized special crop areas. (Maine potatoes, for instance). By and large, crops won't rot in the ground for lack of available labor. A North Central man said: "I can't go into town tomorrow and hire four men to come out right away for harvest, like I used to..but I think If I do my best to make out with the labor there is available, I'll make out all right. Biggest problem will be in corn, where we have a lack of labor and a lack of corn pickers to replace labor."

In some North Central States, this corn problem will result in seeding of less winter wheat. Corn follows wheat (and beans) as a common practice in several states. If the corn has to stand in the fields and be got in over a period of months, the corn will eventually be harvested completely, but it will be too late in many instances to put in wheat by the time the corn is got off the fields.

DELAYED ACTION. Loan program on the 1943 rice crop is being held up because of objections to putting such a large sum of money "on the shelf". The program, as planned by AAA, runs like this: Loan rates for all varieties, grades and milling qualities of rice will average about $1.21 per bushel, which represents 90 percent of parity as of August 1. This rate is comparable to $4.36 a barrel or $2.69 a cwt. (This is exclusive of rates for California rice). Mechanics of the program are essentially the same as last year's.

Proposed loan rates per bushel for rice in the southern States are as follows: Blue Rose, $1.21; Rexoro, $1.37; Nira, $1.33; Edith, $1.23; Fortuna, $1.20;

Lady Wright, $1.15; Zenith and American Peal, $1.06; and early Prolific, $1.04.

COTTONSEED CONNIVING. Many buyers of cottonseed are paying farmers less than the support price, according to reports, and an information campaign is under way to encourage farmers to report these violations, together with specific facts, to their county AAA offices.

Farmers with balelots of seed are more likely to be ictimized, since support prices are for lots of ten tons and over. These small operators, can, however, pool their seed with their neighbors, and make up ten-ton lots.

In the publicity, processors will be warned that CCC is under no obligation to take seed from them at support prices if they have not paid the producer the support prices.

On July 30, WFA established a minimum support for cottonseed which allows the grower an average of approximately $54 a ton. This price takes into consideration average quality premiums and discounts and an average ginner's margin of not more than $3 a ton.

NO CORN QUOTAS. No corn marketing quotas will be proclaimed for the 1943 crop. The September crop report and estimated October 1 carryover indicate a total corn supply for the 1943-44 marketing year of 3,415,000,000 bushels. This supply is under the level which would make a quota proclamation mandatory. In determination of the quota level, provision was made for continued heavy production of meat, dairy and poultry products. Corn disappearance on both domestic and export fronts during the 1943-44 marketing year is expected to be about the same as for the 1942-43 period. The bulk of corn exports will be in the form of lease-lend livestock products.

TO BE EDITED FOR
REGIONAL USE

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

September 21, 1943

FOR GENERAL USE

SHORTAGE OF PEARL DIVERS — People are standing in line, bemoaning the food shortage, in front of popular priced Detroit restaurants, reports Variety magazine. They wonder how the nation will be fed if people already have to stand in line for food. Fact of the matter is, there's plenty of space inside to sit down in, and there's plenty of food for all the customers. But the restaurant help can't get the dirty dishes washed fast enough to keep up with the constant stream of customers.

FAMILY INCOMES. During 1935-39, it took 22% of the average family income for a typical food budget. By May, 1943, the same food budget cost only 16% of the income earned by consumers. However, in actual practice, consumers had "traded up" in their food buying by last May so that 19% of their income went for food during that month. These figures help explain in part why there are shortages in some of our favorite foods.

HOW'RE WE DOING? Farmers can take an additional pride in a war job well done when they compare their 1943 production with pre-Pearl Harbor output. Compared with 1932-41 production averages, indicated 1943 production for wheat is up 13%; rice, 50%; corn, 27%; oats, 12%; barley, 37%; sorghums, 67%; all hay, 16%; flaxseed, 285%; soybeans for beans, 305%; peanuts, 131%; dry beans, 60%; dry peas, 261%; total tobacco, 2%; Irish potatoes, 27%; and sweet potatoes, 3%. Big point to remember is not only that the production increase has been so huge, but that it has been achieved without endangering the future of the soil, and increases have been in the crops most urgently needed in war time.

MACHINERY IN BRIEF. The machinery program seems pretty well rounded into shape, though there are a number of details on procedure remaining unsettled. Breakdown is into three shcedules.

Schedule 1 (19 items) includes mostly tractors, planting and harvesting equipment, sprayers and manure spreaders. These items will be rationed, with state and county quotas set up and purchasing done on a purchase certificate basis. Of these, 20% of national production will be held as emergency reserve. The other 80% for distribution will be worked out by manufacturers with states and WFA. In cases where items are being used for the first time, or where there is evidence of maldistribution, states can direct 10% of this distribution.

Schedule 2 (12 classes) includes milking machines and coolers, water equipment, garden tractors and other general equipment. On this equipment quotas will be set up by states only, with WFA approving, and rationing will be on a purchase certificate basis. A 20% national reserve will be held back.

Schedule 3 (14 items) includes mostly ground preparation equipment, distribution equipment and stationary threshers. These will go pretty much as the manufacturer sees fit, though a national emergency reserve of 20% will be withheld on these items also. Purchase of these items will not require a purchase certificate after a certain date (tentatively October 15), which means the farmer can purchase such items where and if he finds them.

Note: Last year, at the highest point, around 82 items were on a purchase certificate basis. This time, it's only about 31 items.

AUSTRIAN WINTER PEAS. North Carolina farmers are being urged to use about 8 million pounds of Austrian Winter Pea seed this fall, compared to about 5 and 1/4 million pounds last year.

Farmers participating in the AAA program can get seeds---$7.40 per hundredweight--and pay for them later out of payments earned under the program. Payments practically cover the cost of the seed.

An ample supply of seed is available, and operations already begun, are expected to continue throughout the month. Officials point out that cover crops protect the soil against wind and water erosion during the bad weather and that the vegetation improves the soil's fertility by adding green manure material to it and by restoring nutrients which have been sapped by the proceding crops.

TENTATIVE DATES OF STATE MEETINGS IN OCTOBER

1944 FOOD PRODUCTION

NORTHEAST

Vermont	11-12	New Hampshire	11-12
Rhode Island	13	Massachusetts	13-14
New Jersey	21-22	Connecticut	15-16
New York		Pennsylvania	21-22
		Maine	26-27

SOUTHERN

Louisiana	4-6	Mississippi	4-5
Texas	7-9	Alabama	7-9
Oklahoma	11-13	Georgia	11-13
Arkansas	14-16	Florida	14-16
		South Carolina	28-30

EAST CENTRAL

North Carolina	5-7	W. Virginia	5-7
Virginia	11-13	Maryland	11-13
Tennessee	14-16	Delaware	14-16
Kentucky	18-20		

Schedule 5 (Mr. Lower) concerns soil and water conservation, drainage, irrigation and electricity distribution. Those will be briefly taken up in the presentation see fig. Among a national conservation program of soil utilization is being taken place. Structures of state farms will regulate a farmers specialists after a certain date (beginning summer 1971, which means the farmer can produce grain times which and if he first then.

Mr. Lower, at the request, answer Mr. Stage was in a discussion specialists basis. This time, it's only about 20 farms.

(Slides shown). Mr. Lower further answer questions regarding the 6 utility plants of Jaszberenyi Farmers Co-operative and about 7 and 1/2 million people last year.

Farmers participating in the AAA program can get loans--$17.00 per hectare--and for the land after and of equipment earned under the program, payment practically after the cost of the seed.

In spite supply of seed is available, and quantities already there, are working to develop the varieties. Difficulty point out that Hungarian produce the soil against and main erosion making the sun burning and that the irrigation improves the soil's fertility by adding green manure material as it and by fertilizing materials which also have repaid by the growing crops.

TRIALTEST DATA OF MAIN CROPS IN HUNGARY

1969/1970 PROGRAM

WHEAT

Tomori	11-14	Ker-Jaszberenye	1-4
Szeged 1414	15	Szarvas-Szeged	1-3
Ker-Jaszber	11-20	Szarvas-Tel	17-2
Ker-Line		Tomaszjanos	4-20
		Selim	20-27

LUPINES

Lupinus	2	Alvinczfoldi	1-5
Tanya	1-3	Szarvas	1-3
Szarvas	1-13	Szegfu	11-17
Fehemes	1-11	Gyulaj	1-14
		Szeto Gyulaj	20-22

SOY BEANS

Sunny Varalja	20	S. Kiyoto	20-7
Vitajnis	1-13	Szarvas	1-13
Vitaszeles	1-11	Salamon	1-12
Sunnyy	14-20		

NORTH CENTRAL

Wisconsin	4-6	Ohio	4-6
Minnesota	7-9	Indiana	7-9
Iowa	11-13	Missouri	11-13
Nebraska	14-16	Illinois	14-16
South Dakota	18-20	Michigan	18-20

WESTERN

Kansas	4-6	Colorado	4-6
New Mexico	7-9	Wyoming	7-9
Arizona	11-12	Idaho	11-13
California	14-16	Oregon	14-16
Nevada	18-19	Washington	18-19
Utah	21-22	Montana	21-23
		North Dakota	29-30

FOR COMMITTEEMEN'S USE ONLY. SUPPORT PRICE. The WFA support price policy for 1944 is likely to be along these general lines: The overall general level of farm prices should be about the same as 1943. However, several upward and downward adjustments (lower supports for hogs already announced) may be necessary among individual commodities to insure the desired volume of each commodity. In cases of some products, where increased production is wanted, the level of the support prices should be high enough to cover added costs and risks incurred by the expansion.

THEY DIDN'T SETTLE MUCH. You'll be hearing more and more about the meeting of distributors and growers of fresh vegetables with OPA and WFA in Washington September 17 and 18 although they didn't get very much definitely settled. Object was to deal with price supports and ceilings for fresh vegetables. The meeting went something like this: on the first day, OPA suggested ceiling and support prices on 18 vegetables, which provided conversational material for the entire day. That night, the "industry committee" (composed largely of distributors) got together at their hotel and devised a somewhat different program.

THIS WAS NOT DONE BECAUSE THE DISTRIBUTORS FELT THAT THEY WANTED A CEILING AND SUPPORT PRICE PROGRAM, BUT MORE IN A "IF WE MUST HAVE A PROGRAM, LET'S HAVE THIS KIND OF A PROGRAM" SPIRIT.

Program of the "industry committee" called for general increases over what OPA had tentatively set. Going in with their own plan the second day, the "industry committee" found OPA going along in their direction, to a large degree. General proposal was for setting a price as of a certain date, more or less agreeable to all concerned, weighting that price in consideration of increased labor, seed and machinery costs, etc., with an additional increase for the eight most wanted vegetables.....tomatoes, snap beans, carrots, cabbage, beets, peas, onions and spinach. Highlighting the discussion was the question of who would get what part of the percentage markup between grower and consumer.

Wisconsin	4-6	Ohio	4-6
Minnesota	7-3	Indiana	7-3
Iowa	11-13	Missouri	11-13
Nebraska	14-16	Illinois	14-16
South Dakota	18-20	Michigan	18-20

Texas	1-2	Montana	4-6
New Mexico	7-9	Wyoming	7-9
Arizona	11-12	Idaho	11-13
California	14-16	Oregon	14-16
Nevada	18-20	Washington	18-19
Utah	21-22	Alaska	20-22
		Hawaii	23-24

THE COMMITTEEMEN'S NOT OFF.

BLACKS PRICE. The NRA support price policy for 1934 is likely to be along these general lines: The over-all general level of farm prices should be about the same as 1933. However, several special commodity adjustments should occur for which supporting [illegible] may be necessary among individual commodities to insure the desired values of each commodity. In spite of some problems, many international conditions in market, the level of the majority prices should be high enough to cover added costs and risks incurred by the producers.

THEY DO NOT SUPPLY THEM. There is bowling more and more times the people of Washington and groups of fresh vegetables with [illegible] in Washington. Oliver Wyckoff 37 was 18 although they didn't get very much half-[illegible] prices. Oliver was co-[illegible] with price supports and selling for fresh vegetables. The building and [illegible] Line Line. On the first day, NRA [illegible] and support prices on [illegible] 12 vegetables, which [illegible] commercial market for the [illegible]. This [illegible] the "industry committee" [illegible] of [illegible] and [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] a [illegible] price.

THIS WAS NOT THE INDUSTRY THE CONSTITUTIONS [illegible] THAT THEY [illegible] A DEPARTMENT [illegible] PRICES PROGRAM, BUT RUNS ON A "BUSINESS BASIS BUT A [illegible]. [illegible] THIS KIND OF A PROGRAM" SPIRIT.

Prices of the "industry committee" called for general increases [illegible] NRA has tentatively set. Going in with their [illegible] the [illegible] day, the "industry committee" found NRA going along in their direction. In a [illegible] degree. During proposed was for setting a price as of a certain date, some or [illegible] possibly to all consumers, [illegible] that price is [illegible] of [illegible] Also, any [illegible] [illegible], etc., with an additional increase for the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]..... [illegible], and [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]. Highlighting the discussion was the [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] of the percentage markup between grower and consumer.

Growers were not at all backward in telling OPA and WFA that there'd be changes in production next year, if nothing more than this year's history was to be offered. Growers pointed to aggravating situation of having patriotically cut down on melons, peppers, eggplant, etc., in favor of requested crops.....only to see melons selling at $3 and other not so necessary items commanding high prices.

Nothing definite was settled at the meeting. OPA and WFA said perhaps something more concrete can be accomplished in another meeting some three weeks hence. Those attending the meeting said two months is more likely.

Brightest spot on the picture: consumers will get a better deal than they did in 1944.

WHERE'S THE LABOR? Latest figures show approximately 1,600,000 placements for farm work were made during the four months ending August 31. These included 44,000 workers imported from Mexico, 4,500 from the Bahamas and 8,500 from Jamaica. Also, something like 6,000 Japanese internees have been assigned to farms. A very large number of war prisoners have also been used for farm work and members of our own armed forces have worked for short periods in some areas.

In the midwest potato growers are having trouble getting harvest labor. This is largely a problem of getting in labor from outside the potato areas. ~~Crux of the problem seems to be a difference of opinion on whose responsibility it is to get this labor in.~~ Trouble at present is mostly in Nebraska and Wisconsin, with prospects none too good in Minnesota (and North Dakota).

GOALS BACKGROUND. North Central Division in Washington will soon be sending to states some background material for use in connection with the goals meetings. This will include acreage data, with bar charts showing crop land utilization for 1944 and preceding years. It will include also 1942 and 1943 acreage; 1944 capacity; recognized 1944 crop land uses and a comparison with recent years.

TO BE EDITED FOR
EDITORIAL USE

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

October 5, 1943

FOR GENERAL USE

TURKEY TABACCO — WFA urges you to remember that the turkey embargo (limiting turkey sales to the armed forces) was not revoked October 1, as originally scheduled. It's still in effect and will be until further notice. To meet the continued needs of the Army for turkey for overseas holiday dinners, OPA has continued its pricing action designed to speed the flow of turkey. Beginning October 1, the Army agreed to pay for dressed turkey up to 8 cents a pound above the maximum base price for the same kind of turkey alive--as compared with 8½ cents a pound during September. The arrangement will be terminated when the Army has filled its need for turkeys to be shipped overseas.

MIXED FERTILIZER SUPPLIES PILE UP — Make application for your mixed fertilizer requirements right now. Take immediate delivery and store it for use later this fall and next spring. That's the request of WFA, made in an effort to keep storage, handling and transportation facilities from being swamped. Supplies are already piling up in the hands of dealers and manufacturers and unless they're moved, bottlenecked facilities may result in inability to meet spring demands. (Check local situation before releasesing this to press).

AMMONIUM NITRATE FOR CYANIMID — Cyanimid fertilizer, dur to war time demands, will not be available to fruit growers who ordinarily apply it in the fall. However, ammonium nitrate, an excellent substitute, will be available in adequate quantities and is now in the hands of fertilizer manufacturers. Ammonium nitrate should be applied immediately upon receipt, as it hardens in storage.

BURLEY TOBACCO — The War Food Administration has announced that Burley tobacco growers will vote in an October 23 referendum to determine whether marketing quotas shall be in effect for the 1944 crop. The referendum will also determine whether marketing quotas shall be in effect for the three-year period, 1944-46. Quotas now in effect were voted three years ago.

WFA officials announced that the national marketing quota and State and farm acreage allotments on Burley will be 20 percent larger than for 1943, with provisions for adjustments similar to those in the past.

Simultaneously, an increase of 20 percent was announced in the national marketing quota and State and farm acreage allotments for flue-cured tobacco. Flue-cured growers approved continuance of marketing quotas by a 7 to 1 vote in a July 24 referendum.

OIL MEAL POINTERS. There have been a couple more developments on the oilseed meal program. Looks like they should somehat ease the problem of feeding livestock during the 1943-44 season. One is an amendment providing the Director of food production, if he sees fit, may issue an order to require processors to set aside up to 20%

of their monthly production of cottonseed, soybean, peanut and linseed oil meal for distribution to deficiency areas. The Director of Food Distribution has also just sent a letter to allproducers of oil seed meal, saying that they will be expected to do a good job of distribution. If a good job is not done, the 20% will be taken over and re-distributed...and, if necessary, a larger amount.

Another amendment prohibits sale of soybean flour and grits for use as feed. Reason: flour and grits command a higher price than oilseed meal and, if included in feeds and sold to farmers at flour and grits prices, feed meal prices would be higher.

A regulation controlling prices of cottonseed oil meal, cake, sized cake and pellets, and cottonseed hulls and hull bran, was amended on September 29 to remove a provision which tended to draw this feed from the South to the North. The amendment removed all possibilities of allowing a premium of $1 a carload for sales in the North.

CORN IN TWO WARS

U. S. CORN IN BOTH WARS

First Year	1916	1941
Acreage	100,561,000	86,089,000
Yield per acre	26.2	21.0
Production	2,425,206,000	2,672,541,000
Second Year	**1917**	**1942**
Acreage	110,893,000	89,484,000
Yield	26.2	35.9
Production	2,908,242,000	3,175,154,000
Third Year	**1918**	**1943**
Acreage	102,195,000	94,297,000
Yield	23.9	31.7
Production	2,441,249,000	2,985,267,000

That's the story of corn in the United States during two wars. World War I, large acreage, small yield per acre, smaller total production. World War II, smaller acreages, greater yield per acre, larger total production, more crop land available for equally needed crops, with no misuse of land.

LEGUME SEEDS Producers of legume and grass seeds should be informed immediately that there is a spread of from 5 to 8½ cents between the support prices and ceiling prices for many of these seeds, and that the ceiling prices are the highest the will receive this year.

Many producers are holding their seed for higher prices, and consequently these seeds are not moving into the areas in which they are so vitally needed for cover crops and animal forage. This "bottleneck" is sure to have a direct affect on the food production program.

The primary object of the seed program is to move the seed from farmer-producer to farmer-consumer at prices that are fair to both, as well as to the

processors, wholesalers and retailers. Under this system, the growers receive about two-thirds of the prices paid by the consumers. Handlers receive handling fees plus reasonable prices.

Besides the market prices farmers receive for their seed, they may also earn AAA payments for growing them. Use of grass and legume seed to maintain and increase America's soil fertility will prevent the plowing up of land planted to permanent cover which occurred with such disastrous affect during World War I.

NORTH EAST CENTRAL In Delaware the feed situation is still serious; state AAA office had on hand standing orders for 28 cars of corn that could not be filled. Drought has cut the sweet potato crop so that the storage will be no problem. Lime companies are catching up on their orders. In North Carolina orders for four and a half million pounds of Austrian Winter Peas had been received in a week's time. Tennessee reported good prospects for dark fired tobacco and Burley stripping was well under way. Up to September 22, CCC had shipped into Tennessee 1,911,578 pounds of Crimson Clover seed.

FOR COMMITTEEMEN'S USE ONLY

WHAT'S THE SCORE? As War Food Administration officials attend 1944 goal meetings throughout the nation this month, they will offer specific suggestions for maintaining the largest practical balanced production of livestock and poultry in view of a feed supply that is smaller than in 1943.

The WFA will point out that the supply of concentrate feed for the year beginning October 1, 1943, will be about 5 percent less than the quantity fed last year. Feed grains are expected to be down 5 to 10 percent, and the quantity of wheat slightly less. Total supply of protein meals and other high protein feeds is expected to be up 3 to 5 percent.

Livestock and poultry numbers on farms on January 1, 1944 are expected to be up about 10 percent.

Officials state that it will therefore be necessary to heed the following suggestions:

(1) Market hogs at average weights rather than at the heavy weights of the last two years. Start a spring pig crop equal to that of 1942. (This will mean farrowings next spring about 20 percent below those of the spring of 1943 and average weights about 25 pounds less than average market weights in 1943).

(2) Place more dependence on roughage and pasture for cattle, sheep and lambs (and to a lesser extent, for dairy cattle). Feed out the same number of sheep and lambs as 1943. Milk production should be maintained at not less than the 1942-43 level.

(3) Feed out 15 to 20 percent more cattle, but to weights 5 percent below average and to good grade only. (With heavier reliance on roughage, this should not require any more concentrates than the quantity used last year). For range cattle, use sufficient feed, particularly protein supplements in the form of cake or pellets, to maintain 95 percent of the number maintained last year.

(4) Maintain egg production at 1942-43 level. (The number of hens and pullets now on farms would produce 5 to 10 percent more eggs than last year if sufficient feed were available.) Raise as many broilers as in 1942--or 80 percent of 1943--and about 95 percent as many turkeys and ducks as in 1943. For chickens, other than broilers, raise 95 percent of the number last year.

Officials point out that if such a program is carried out, the feed trade must use great care with their available supplies. Feed men are requested to distribute the same proportion of their production to the same buyers as

during the year beginning October 1, 1941. High protein feed men are requested to distribute the same proportions of their production to large and small feed mixers, to dealers for resale, and to farmers, as they sold in the year beginning October 1, 1941.

WFA leaders also stated that the program can be carried out only if available feed supplies are used as efficiently as in the years immediately preceding 1943, rather than as in 1943 when farmers used 8 percent more feed per unit of livestock and poultry products produced.

WHY SHOULDN'T THEY? WHAT DO YOU THINK? Often these days you hear someone say, "People are making lots of money; why shouldn't they pay more money for their food?" Here's something to consider when next you hear this said. While you are right in assuming the average civilian in this country is receiving more income than in pre-war years, REMEMBER:

1. In 1942, 55% of all consumer "units" (families and individual civilians) received less than $2,000 income. And their average income was far below $2,000.

2. Also, 24.6% of all consumer "units" received less than ~~xxxxx~~ $1,000. And their average was still lower.

3. Less than one-fifth of the consumer "units" received more than $3,500.

4. To emphasize this even more: during 1942, 40% of our civilian population received less than $1,500 (with an average income of only $862.)

Does that look like the average civilian should still pay more for his food?

During the year beginning October 1, 1941, this program for farmers was temporarily in abeyance due even geographically or other circumstances to farms not until that where, in helping the people, and in farmers, as they made in the year beginning October 1, 1941.

The country also which the program can be carried out only if workers that supplies are used as efficiently as in the years immediately preceding 1941, rather than as in 1941 when farmers used 6 percent more feed per unit of livestock and poultry products produced.

Our [illegible] Farm Bureau per year [illegible] say, "Health are that to [illegible] making [illegible] sure [illegible] money for their family." Here's something to consider when next you have this talk. Only you are right in assuming the average farmer in this country is receiving more income than 1/ [illegible] years, [illegible]

1. In 1940, 55% of all farmers "units" (families and individual civilians) received less than $2,000 income. And their average income was far below $2,000.

2. Also, 81.2% of all farmers "units" received less than income $1,000. And their average was still lower.

3. Less than one-third of the farmers "units" received more than $3,000.

4. In-addition this was true during 1941, 1/3 of the civilian population received less than $1,500 (also an average income of only $500.)

Now that how like the average civilian should still pay more for food.

TO BE EDITED FOR
REGIONAL USE

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

October 12, 1943

FOR GENERAL USE

RECLAMATION MEETING — The 12th annual meeting and irrigation war food conference of the National Reclamation Association will be held October 27, 28, and 29, at Denver. Washington USDA speakers will include E. D. White, Chief, Conservation Branch, Food Production Administration; and Dr. Hugh Bennett, Director, U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

BACKGROUND TO REMEMBER

An effective way of insuring greater supplies of food crops and greater quantities of livestock products is through further development, use, and disposal of water. There are approximately 31 million acres of undrained or poorly drained land now being cultivated, or can readily be cultivated, which could be drained at a moderate cost and which would add materially to total production. In addition, about 11,700,000 acres of irrigated lands need supplemental water for full production. There are also about 18,000,000 acres of fertile undeveloped land in the humid area in need of drainage that is suitable for continuous crop use and could be drained at a moderate cost. Furthermore, there are water resources in the Western States adequate to permit development of several million acres of new land. While it would not be feasible during wartime to bring into production a high percentage of this new land, full advantage should be taken of the best existing opportunities for developing these new and productive permanent croplands.

Australian Wheat — The 1943-44 wheat crop in Australia has been estimated tentatively at approximately 89 million bushels, or only about 57 percent of the 1942-43 crop. Reduced acreage and indicated reductions in yields per acre account for the expected low crop.

EAST CENTRAL — Soybean harvest is beginning in the northern area. The crop is short in the drought area of Maryland, Delaware and Virginia. Good yields are reported in other areas except some of Western Tennessee where yields will likely be considerably less than in 1942.

Protein shortage in the East Central Region is acute, particularly in the drought area where grains are also becoming hard to get. Very little cottonseed meal or soybean meal is moving into the area from producing areas.

The North Carolina office reported on October 5 that Austrian Winter pea orders had passed the 5,300,000 pound mark.

QUOTE TO REMEMBER — "Another sidelight on consumer buying power and wages is the report of the Administrator of the Wage and Hour Act that 12,500,000 workers are getting 40 cents an hour or less." -- Wallace's Farmer.

WEATHER REPORT — To relieve the handicaps imposed on farmers by lack of weather reports was one of the main reasons for the Office of Censorship's recent removal of practically all restrictions on the publication and broadcasting of official weather information.

All weather data except wind direction and barometric pressure can now be broadcast. In announcing the new policy the Office of Censorship said,

"The diminishing benefits from weather restrictions now appear to be overbalanced by the inevitable handicaps imposed on farming, aviation, shipping and other essential activities by inadequate weather information."

OCTOBER CROP REPORT — A summary says in part: Crop yields in the country as a whole are turning out about as expected a month ago. Farmers are harvesting the second-highest crop yields from the largest acreage harvested in 10 years. To meet the bumper demand for direct food crops there are bumper crops of potatoes, rice, beans, peas, and peanuts. Production of the principal oil seeds as a group will be about the same as in 1942 and a third greater than in any other season. This year's wheat crop is only about average but the July 1 carryover was large and wheat stocks on farms on October 1 were 56 percent above average. There will be more sweetpotatoes than we usually grow except in depression periods. Fruit production is lower than in most of the last half dozen seasons but exceeds production in earlier years. Barring severe storm or freezing losses there should be a record or near-record tonnage of grapes, but apples, peaches and pears are light crops due chiefly to frosts last spring. Commercial vegetable production not including the large crops of potatoes and sweetpotatoes will probably be greater than in any season prior to 1942. A large tonnage of vegetables for canning and processing was produced but it was less than production last year. The supply of market vegetables has been, and still continues, relatively light but the increased number of home gardens augments the supply somewhat.

MILITARY SAUERKRAUT — Looks like the armed forces will get first call on sauerkraut. WPA has frozen all stocks now in the hands of packers and set them aside for military purchase. When military needs have been met, remaining kraut supplies will be made available for civilian use.

FLORIDA FERTILIZER — At its first business session of the 1943-44 term, the U. S. Supreme Court ruled invalid Florida's attempt to place an inspection fee on fertilizer distributed by the Federal Government to farmers participating in the AAA soil conservation program.

PESTS FOR PESTS — Iowa is going to raise pests to destroy pests which are damaging its greatest crop. The State executive council has authorized propagation and distribution of a parasite which attacks the European corn borer. This parasite is a fly which lays its eggs on the borer. When the eggs hatch the borer is destroyed.

MEXICAN CORN Present indications are that the 1943 corn crop in Mexico will be at least 20 percent below the 92,000,000 bushels harvested last year, according to reports made to the USDA. The indicated crop of 74,000,000 bushels is below current requirements. Drought damage in virtually all corn producing areas of the country is the chief reason for the reduced crop, the OFAR reports. Confronted with prospects of a shortage the Mexican Government on September 21 announced the adoption of drastic measures, and placed all commercial stocks under control of a Government agency, the "Consortium," to control purchases and distribution.

FOR COMMITTEEMEN'S USE ONLY

DAIRY PROGRAM (This material is all tentative as this piece is written. You have a wire in your office on area rates. In addition, a docket, press release, instructions and a letter from Administrator Dodd will be forthcoming shortly. Meanwhile, this matter is merely preparatory and not official.)

In an effort to maintain and increase production of whole milk and butter fat, dairy feed price adjustment payments will be offered to dairy farmers for the quarter beginning October 1, 1943, and ending December 31, 1943. The payments are intended to partially offset increases in cost of dairy feeds.

Payment rates for various areas have been set up. Areas and rates were determined primarily on the basis of (1) increase in the price of milk over the 1938-40 average price, (2) changes in the price of dairy feed since September, 1942, and (3) average proportion of dairy feed purchased.

Payments of more than $1.00 will be made by the County AAA committee by means of a non-interest-bearing draft, payable at any bank designated by the producer and drawn on the Commodity Credit Corporation. Payments will be made only to producers who file an application for payment with the county committee and furnish satisfactory evidence of the sale of whole milk or butterfat.

Sales slips from co-ops, dairies, creameries, and others showing the amount of whole milk or butter fat purchased, the date of purchase, and the name of the seller will be considered as satisfactory evidence of sale. If a producer is unable to furnish such evidence, his personal certification of the amount sold may be accepted if the amount reported sold is consistent with the county committee's knowledge of the number of cows milked, feed used, and customers served.

N. E. Dodd, AAA chief, referring to the program, said: "It is vitally important that dairy production, and especially whole milk production, be prevented from lagging. Nutritionally, milk is one of the most necessary foods in a wartime diet."

WESTERN REGION Oregon reports that weather conditions have been favorable for harvesting crops. Warm weather has hastened the ripening corn to the extent that canneries have found it difficult to process it in the quantities offered. The labor situation has been fairly satisfactory, the greatest difficulty being in connection with cannery labor due to the 20 percent withholding tax and the fact that canners are limited in the wages they can pay.

An Idaho report indicated that some potatoes in the south central area were being dug "green." Farmers were becoming nervous over the possibility that lack of labor would cause part of their crop to be frozen in the ground. A great need for potato sorters, buckers and truck drivers has been reported by potato warehousemen in southeastern Idaho. The State War Board has decided not to select a county for "A" award, because of dissimilar conditions and not satisfactory basis for an arbitrary selection. Tractors are said to be badly needed now by farmers who wish to start their 1944 crop year work. The allocation of drawler-type tractors is considered inadequate.

New Mexico reports a somewhat critical situation in marketing and transportation of livestock in all range counties. The paramount problem in the State is the acute shortage of feed, especially protein supplements. Producers in one of the major potato-growing areas of the State are concerned about the lack of a market, especially for No. 2 potatoes. The Colorado crop is apparently moving into New Mexico, thereby making it difficult for local farmers to find an outlet for their potatoes. Cotton picking is well under way in the major cotton counties and apparently there has been no serious shortage of pickers. A considerable number of Italian prisoners has been made available.

California reports that their most critical farm machinery shortage is in crawler tractors. The State committee reports that the assistance which has been given in attempting to obtain sufficient ammunition to protect rice against ducks has been most helpful. Even so, there has been extensive damage--at least two farmers are known to have decided not to harvest fields of 100 acres or more, because of duck damage. Other examples were cited. The shortage of high protein feeds is resulting in reductions in recent weeks of the production of certain livestock products, particularly eggs and dairy products, the committee reports. Cotton men are pleased over cotton wage stabilization.

1944 PEANUTS Peanut growers should be urged to save enough peanuts for 1944 plantings. Washington officials are preparing an information piece which is expected to go to the field soon.

AAA "CONTRADICTION" EXPLAINED An Ohio newspaper recently queried AAA concerning a report that a Kentucky farmer received in the same mail both a check for "cutting down" and a letter urging him to grow more of the same crop. The reply explained that the farmer might have received a 1942 wheat crop parity check. To have qualified for that check, he would have had to stay "within his allotment." Staying within an allotment at that time was merely a logical adjustment. AAA policy has always favored production of all the market would take, but not an unplanned avalanche of production which would contribute to farm bankruptcy. In the same mail, the farmer might have received a communication stating that there are not quotas on 1944 wheat---that the lid is partially off. The check and the 1944 wheat announcement apply to different dates in a period of quickly changing situations. The change in policy is no more contradictory than the nation's changed course of action after Axis aggression became apparent.

December 6, 1943

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

FOR GENERAL USE

REVISED FPO - 9 REPRESENTS COMPROMISE

The finally-approved revisions of FPO No. 9, dealing with meal distribution, represent a compromise between the views of feeders and many small feed mixers unable to get sufficient protein, on the one side, and the oilseed processors and many large feed mixers, on the other side.

Spokesmen for the feeders and many small mixers argued that (1) too much protein meal was going into mixed feeds; (2) prices on mixed feeds were too high; and (3) many processors had taken over old-fashioned feed outlets and were failing to supply the customers who formerly depended on the outlets.

Spokesmen for the processors and the other mixers asked (1) for more time, say six months, to try out the voluntary allocation plan of the Feed Industry Council; (2) a more recent basing period than 1942 for allocations; (3) and striking out a proposed 15-day limitation on protein inventories. Three congressmen--Wickersham, D., of Oklahoma; Rees, R., of Kansas; and Barrett, R., of Wyoming--all spoke in favor of the proposed order.

CHICAGO YARDS MAY DECLARE HOG EMBARGO

Associated Press reports dated December 4 said the South St. Paul Union Stockyard "announced a new embargo on hogs today, effective at midnight and continuing until midnight of next Wednesday, December 10", and that "an embargo on the shipment of hogs to the Chicago Union Stockyards may be required if supplies are not cleared over the weekend."

Main reasons for this swamping of marketing facilities are the huge spring pig crop of this year, and desire on the part of producers to get their pigs on the block while weights are under the support levels.

The 1943 spring pig crop was more than 74 million. The 1932-41 average for both spring and fall pig crops was only 73 million.

One report said 20,000 hogs remained unsold Saturday. "There is danger of pneumonia affecting these animals, which means government condemnation, plus the heavy cost of feed and the shrinkage of as much as five pounds a head if kept for more than a short time in the pens", the report said.

The above might well be combined in further news and stories for radio spots urging farmers to be certain that marketing facilities are available before they sell.

FWAD, LIVESTOCK BRANCH SET UP UNDER FPA

Under Administrator's Memo 31, Revised, AAA is made responsible for the "Facilitation of transportation and distribution of feedstuffs." (See item 3). Actually, this job is assigned to AAA field forces under the direction of the new Feed and Livestock Branch, just as several other programs, such as farm machinery rationing,

are assigned to AAA under the direction of other offices. The branch is established as a staff office of F.P.A. Walter C. Berger, of Des Moines is head of the new branch. He is known as a spokesman for the small feed mixers and dealers. Probably a case of things happening fast and simultaneously; so that developments outrun even current directives.

CHICKS - FOR BROILERS SALES DECLINE

The BAE Hatchery Report for October indicated ~~that~~ a general weakening in the current demand for chicks for broilers, but the outlook for the main hatching season--January-June---is good with a big backlog of orders for delivery in that season. This increase may, however, be the result, in part, of a tendency to place orders earlier than in past seasons.

The decrease in orders for broiler chick stock in October is possibly the beginning of the adjustment suggested by WFA to bring commercial broiler production into balance with available feed supplies. Early reports on November orders indicate that the reduction in broiler chick orders is continuing. Several factors, such as a desire to avoid shipping chicks during the Christmas rush and to wait a while for developments in the feed situation, may also be affecting orders but there is a possibility that November broiler chick sales will be less than in November, 1942.

MILK PAYMENTS EXCEED $5,000,000

October production and sale of 1,382,156,200 pounds of milk, 12,800,041 pounds of butterfat resulted in total payments of $5,685,366 to a total of 405,439 producers under the dairy feed payment program. These cumulative totals cover payments through November 20 with the exception of three states which have reported payments as of November 27.

North Central Region payments account for $2,293,279 of the total amount paid; Northeast, $1,102,909; Western, $1,088,835; Southern, $760,467; and East Central, $439,876.

COPPER SULPHATE ON "ORDER EARLY" LIST

WFA is putting special emphasis on it's order-early suggestion to farmers using copper sulphates. Reason is that the quarterly ~~xxxxxxxx~~ allocations of copper by WPB for fungicide purposes are based on demand by users.

Copper sulphate is also beset by storage, labor and transportation complications, which underscores the need for early placing of orders. Local shortages last year were found due to consumer and dealer failure to anticipate needs and transportation delays.

Copper sulphate prices have been stabilized.

REPAIR OF FARM STRUCTURES THEME OF CHICAGO MEET

An extensive educational program to promote repair and maintenance of the country's 10½ billion dollars worth of farm structures is expected to emerge from WFA's meeting with representatives of the farm building materials industry in Chicago last Friday.

The campaign proposes to enlist the aid of editors of the farm press, advertising agencies, radio program managers and Extension Service engineers to pool their educational facilities to keep farm structures at top productive efficiency through adequate maintenance, and necessary minimum of new construction.

With the scarcity of building materials, particularly, lumber, emphasis must now be placed on repair of existing structures. The total investment in farm buildings is reported to be 3½ times the investment in farm machinery and twice the value of all farm livestock. Only agricultural land values exceed this investment.

THREE STEPS TAKEN TO LOOSEN FEED — Three steps taken simultaneously on December 4 by OWS, OPA, and WFA aim to shake loose more livestock feed for dairy and poultry production in the feed-importing areas of the East and South. Briefly, the three steps raised the ceiling price on corn from $1.07 to $1.16; increased the price of CCC's feed wheat by 20 cents a bushel (the new price range is $1.27 to $1.34); and froze current prices on oats, barley, and grain sorghums.

Indicative of move-the-feed objective is the fact that proportionate upping of the ceiling on corn is greater outside the Corn Belt than within. The new "spread" between feed wheat and corn is now 23 cents a bushel in Iowa and Nebraska. These new price relationships are to move corn out and to discourage the use of wheat for feed in the Corn Belt.

The price-freeze caught oats with a market quotation around 11 cents above parity while the market on barley and sorghums was almost exactly at parity.

Under the new basing method, some corn ceilings outside the Corn Belt actually were decreased. To protect corn owners in those areas against loss, the Government has offered to buy corn at the old ceiling until December 31.

Two significant corn facts, as brought out by Food Production Director Hutson before the Senate Banking and Currency Committee: (1) The movement of corn through terminal markets during the past 12 months was the largest on record and 75 million bushels above the previous 12 months; (2) On November 1, the corn-hog ration was only 8 percent above the 20-year average.

ROLLBACK FIGURES — Here are the latest figures on rollback payments for meat and butter made by Defense Supplies Corporation of RFC:

Meat -- $163,128,429 from June 7 to December 1.

Butter - $36,873,722 from June 1 to December 1.

BURLEY CEILINGS UP — An increase of $3 per 100 pounds is granted by OPA in the price ceilings for the 1943 crop of burley tobacco. This increase is granted for each grade.

"A" AWARD COUNTIES NAMED — Here is a nearly-complete list of counties named to receive the agriculture "A" award from the Army. Some celebrations have already been held, others are scheduled for December and January, while dates for others have not yet been set.

CALIFORNIA---Monterey and Kern. COLORADO---Montezuma. FLORIDA---Palm Beach, November 30. GEORGIA---Laurens, January 6; Sumter, January 7; Hall, January 5; Gilmer, January 4; and Early, January 3. HAWAII---Oahu. ILLINOIS---DeKalb, November 22; Logan, November 23; and Randolph, November 24. INDIANA---Grant, December 18, Vigo, December 14; Harrison, December 15. KANSAS---Franklin, November 20; Cheyenne, November 25. MARYLAND---Worchester, January 13. MAINE---Aroostook, November 4. MISSISSIPPI---Neshoba, December 18; Hinds; Simpson, January 7.

Claiborne, December 20; and Holmes. OHIO---Jackson, Clermont, Hocking, and Tuscawaras. OKLAHOMA---Creek; Tillman, third county to be chosen later. TENNESSEE---Gibson, January 5; Shelby, January 4; Sumner, January 6 and Washington, January 7. TEXAS---Coryell, December 14; Cherokee, December 13; Dawson, December 16; Mason, December 15; and Wilbarger, December 17. WEST VIRGINIA--- Barbour, December 16; Pocahontas, December 17. WISCONSIN---Dodge, December 2; Waushara, December 3; and Dunn, December 4.

WAR VETERANS LOOK TO THE LAND

Serious thought has recently been given to the problem of farm land for returning veterans. Applications already are being received in Farm Security Administration county offices from veterans who have been incapacitated in combat and want to return to farming. "What is a trickle today can surely be expected to be a flood when the war is over", says Frank W. Hancock, new FSA administrator.

EVANS URGES GRASSLAND FARMING

".....After the war, agriculture cannot absork additional workers without paying the terrific cost of a lower standard of living on the farms and an increase in soil depletion", said R. M. Evans before a forum meeting of Friends of the Land in Philadelphia on November 17. Mr. Evans is a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and was formerly AAA administrator.

Mr. Evans urged a change to the grassland type of agriculture, pointing out that "there is plenty of evidence to indicate that grass on good land will produce just as good returns, if not better, than any of the soil-depleting crops customarily grown on good land".

"Our national agriculture programs should be based on sound soil conservation farming", said Evans, "combined with a large ever-normal granary for the protection of consumers, and acreage allotments and marketing quotas for the protection of farmers. If the effort is successful, we will have a different type of agriculture from that we have at the present time because we will automatically produce more of the fruits, meat, poultry, and dairy products required for a well-balanced diet, and there will be an abundance of these products over a longer period of years."

PRISONERS OF WAR FARM LABOR PAY GOES TO WAR DEPARTMENT

Sugar beet (and cane) growers employing Prisoners of War in the production, cultivation and harvesting of sugar beets (cane) had a puzzling point regarding the payment of wages cleared up for them last week.

Regulations of the Sugar Act provide that certain prescribed wage rates must be paid to labor used in connection with sugar crops International agreements however, provide that Prisoners of War in the United States be paid no more than 80 cents a day when working, and that the wages be paid by the War Department. Thus, farmers were faced with the question of how to comply with Sugar Act regulations and still meet regulations covering Prisoners of War.

The USDA Solicitor clarified the point with an opinion that provides for full compliance with the Sugar Act if a farmer pays the prescribed wage rate to the War Department rather than to the prisoners.

This regulation applies to all enterprises utilizing Prisoner of War labor.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

FARM MACHINERY SCHEDULES SHOW BIG INCREASE IN EQUIPMENT OUTPUT

WFA's office of materials and facilities has just released approved schedules of farm machinery production for the 1943-44 production year. The schedules reflect a substantial increase over production of similar items produced during the base periods (1940 or 1941- whichever is larger).

Increases for major items are listed as follows:

Corn Planters	30% increase
Potato Planters	9% increase
Grain Drills	20% increase
Manure Spreaders	Same or somewhat higher
Weeders	50% increase
Sprayers	15% increase
Combines - Large	Over 100% increase
Small	Same as in 1940-41
Corn Pickers	Over 50% increase
Potato Diggers	40% increase
Hay Balers	An increase of 240%
Bean Threshers	40% increase
Portable Elevators	34% increase
Milking Machines	40% increase
Floor Brooders	33% increase
Cotton Planters (3-row and over)	Large increase
Tractors	Scheduled production approximates or exceeds that of every year during the 13-year period 1927-1929, inclusive, excepting one --- 1937.

FOR COMMITTEEMEN'S USE ONLY.

(Strictly confidential for administrative information only.)

STATUS OF SUBSIDIES — As this newsletter is being written, Administration forces are reported as making some progress in an effort to postpone for 60 days a Senate vote on banning further use of subsidies to hold down living costs. Senator Wagner of New York, chairman of the Banking Committee, has arranged for the committee to hear on Thursday numerous women's organizations backing subsidies. Most observers are guessing that some compromise will still be affected. It will not mean whole-hog retention of the subsidy system, but it will preserve enough to prevent wrecking of the subsidy setup.

LIPPMANN ON SUBSIDIES — From column, "The Case for the Subsidies," by Walter Lippmann, published December 4, 1943:

"If we were not in this abnormal situation (of enormous Government expenditures), then obviously a Government subsidy to hold prices would be inflationary in that it increased the popular purchasing power by the amount of the subsidy....But in our present situation the Government itself is not only a great consumer but it has an unlimited supply of purchasing power. Therefore, the more the Government has to pay for what it buys, the more inflationary money it will issue to get what it needs; the less it has to pay, because prices are kept down, the less inflationary money it has to put into circulation."

"COMING EVENTS" — Look for revision soon of county farm machinery rationing procedure as a result of WFA's Memorandum 31. Changes in rationing status of listers and middlebusters are also indicated. Pressure cookers may go off the rationed list. Sheet metal for well water casings is to be rationed. A new substitute for binder twine will soon be announced.

EXCERPTS FROM REMARKS BY NEW FSA LEADER — Excerpts from a statement by Frank W. Hancock, FSA administrator, before the Special Committee of the House Committee on Agriculture investigating FSA (November 22), included:

"Farm ownership is a status to be achieved through industry and effort, not presented as a gift."

"The request which has been made is for $6,500,000 additional for administrative and servicing functions and an authorization to lend an additional $37,500,000 under our rural rehabilitation program."

"...In the past two years the rural rehabilitation staff of FSA has been reduced from something over 17,000 to less than 10,000 on the payroll at the present time. If an additional $6,500,000 is not

provided, it will be necessary to cut the existing staff by more than 50 percent. The Farm Security Administration has made or is servicing loans in every agricultural county in the United States. It now maintains about 2000 county offices to carry on this work, and approximately three-quarters of its employees are in the district and county offices. Without further funds it will be necessary to close up about half of these offices."

"The request for additional loan funds is simply a question of whether approximately 50,000 farm families without means of adequate assistance will receive the credit and assistance they need to increase their production of necessary war foods during the coming year."

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE ACT — Included in the deficiency appropriation act reported to the Senate on December 3 is a paragraph which appropriates $2,428,656 "for an additional amount for operating and administrative expenses under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, and which repeals that proviso of the 1944 Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act which killed future crop insurance on wheat and cotton crops.

Instead, this new paragraph makes it clear that the 1944 Agricultural Appropriation Act terminated the 3-year contracts (future insurance would thus be available only under new contracts); it also provides that the new appropriation may be used in connection with any new contracts of insurance for winter wheat of the 1944 crop, but only with the holders, on July 12, 1943, of 3-year contracts. While the offering of insurance on 1944 winter wheat at this stage, even though limited to those who held 3-year contracts, would be undesirable from a profit-and-loss viewpoint because the condition of the crop is now known to the growers, it is felt that those formerly insured on this crop have some justifiable claim to such insurance.

The effect of this paragraph is really to continue crop insurance because it permits the renegotiation of contracts on the 1944 winter wheat crop with people who had 3-year contracts when the 1944 Appropriation Act was passed, and it nullifies the provision prohibiting insurance on future crops.

VETERANS GET ATTENTION IN FIVE BILLS — A chronological summarization of bills which have been introduced which give special attention to war veterans in regard to farming follows:

Rep. Murray, D., Wisconsin, introduced H.R.3014, "Veterans' Farm and Home Grant and Loan Act of 1943." It would provide loans for both farms and homes not exceeding the value of the property, including necessary improvements, the amount to be secured by mortgage repayable in 40 years at 3 percent interest. Eligible veterans would have to be certified as to character, ability and experience by a recognized veterans' organization. The Act would also provide for grants not to exceed $1,000 to be applied as an initial payment on the farm or home.

Rep. Wickersham, D., Oklahoma, introduced H.R. 3023 on

provided, it will be necessary to cut the existing staff by more than 50 percent. The Farm Security Administration has made or is servicing loans in every agricultural county in the United States. It now maintains about 2000 county offices to carry on this work, and approximately three-quarters of its employees are in the division and county offices. Without further funds it will be necessary to close up about half of these offices."

"The request for additional loan funds is simply a question of whether approximately 30,000 farm families without means of adequate assistance will receive the credit and assistance they need to increase their production of necessary war foods during the coming year."

FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE ACT

Included in the deficiency appropriation act reported to the Senate on December 3 is a paragraph which appropriates $2,180,650 "for an additional amount for operating and administrative expenses under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, and which repeals that provision of the 1944 Department of Agriculture Appropriation Act which killed future crop insurance on wheat and cotton crops.

Instead, this new paragraph makes it clear that the 1944 Agricultural Appropriation Act terminated the 3-year contracts (future insurance would thus be available only under new contracts); it also provides that the new appropriation may be used in connection with any new contracts of insurance for winter wheat of the 1944 crop, but only with the holders, on July 12, 1943, of 3-year contracts. While the offering of insurance on 1944 winter wheat at this stage, even though limited to those who held 3-year contracts, would be unfavorable from a profit-and-loss viewpoint because the condition of the crop is now known to the growers, it is felt that those formerly insured on this crop have some justifiable claim to such insurance.

The effect of this paragraph is really to continue crop insurance because it permits the renegotiation of contracts on the 1944 winter wheat crop with people who had 3-year contracts when the 1944 Appropriation Act was passed, and it nullifies the provision prohibiting insurance on future crops.

VETERANS GET ATTENTION IN FIVE BILLS

A chronological summarization of bills which have been introduced which give special attention to war veterans in regard to farming follows:

Rep. Murray D., Wisconsin, introduced H.R. 3011, "Veterans' Farm and Home Grant and Loan Act of 1943." It would provide loans for both farms and homes not exceeding the value of the property, including necessary improvements, the amount to be secured by mortgage repayable in 40 years at 3 percent interest. Eligible veterans would have to be certified as to character, ability and experience by a recognized veterans' organization. The Act would also provide for grants not to exceed $1,000 to be applied as an initial payment on the farm or home.

Rep. Mickewicz, D., Michigan, introduced H.R. 3023 on

June 22 to provide for a "Veterans' Farm Mortgage Insurance Fund." This bill would create a $500,000,000 fund to insure first mortgage agreements entered upon by war veterans for purchase of farm homes during a five-year period after the war. To be insured, the mortgage could not exceed the value of the farm and would have to provide for amortization within not less than 30 years.

Rep. Patman, D., Texas, introduced H.R.3200 on September 1 to be called "Demobilization and Surplus War Property Act." Section 8 of the bill would amend the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, Section 6, to make the benefits of Title I available to veterans. It would provide in each year preceding cessation of hostilities a sum not to exceed $100,000,000 and for each of four years after the war a sum not to exceed $1,000,000,000 a year. The maturity value and redemption value of war savings bonds applied to payments on farms would be increased by 10 percent. The bill would provide dependency allowances and furlough pay of not more than $100 monthly for three months after discharge, unemployment compensation for 26 weeks after expiration of furlough, and 4 years' vocational rehabilitation training for disabled veterans.

Sen. McFarland, D., Arizona, introduced S.1495 on October 29, to be called "Adjusted Compensation Act of 1945." It would provide for discharge credit of $2.50 per day up to 500 days for veterans of overseas service and $2.00 per day for veterans of home service. The amount of this adjusted service credit would be payable in bonds which would not be redeemable before a lapse of three years from date of payment except where the bonds are assigned for (1) payment for educational services, (2) payment on the purchase of a home, or (3) payment on the purchase of a farm by a veteran who has demonstrated in prewar years ability and experience in farming. Any veteran who has been issued a bond under this act is found to be qualified to carry out the undertakings required by the Bankhead-Jones Act would be eligible for the benefits of the Act to the same extent as farm tenants.

Sen. Bankhead, D., Alabama, introduced S.1499 on November 1. The bill would amend the Bankhead-Jones Act by providing for a revolving fund for insurance of farm tenant loans, and would authorize appropriation of $10,000,000 for initial establishment of such a fund. The Act would be amended to extend its benefits to qualified veterans, and to provide for allocation of funds to the States for this ~~purch~~ purpose. Another amendment would extend benefits of the Act to "farmers who own small inadequate farms." Veterans would be eligible for purchase of farm units from surplus public lands acquired in the war effort.

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Rep. Patman, D., Texas, introduced H.R.7600 on September 1 to be called "Rehabilitation and Surplus War Property Act." Section 3 of the bill would amend the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, Section 6, to make the benefits of Title I available to veterans. It would provide in each year preceding cessation of hostilities a sum not to exceed $100,000,000 and for each of four years after the war a sum not to exceed $1,000,000,000 a year. The maturity value and redemption value of war savings bonds applied to payments on farms would be increased by 10 percent. The bill would provide dependency allowances and furnish pay of not more than $100 monthly for three months after discharge, unemployment compensation for 26 weeks after expiration of furlough, and 4 years' vocational rehabilitation training for disabled veterans.

Sen. Bankhead, D., Arizona, introduced S.1199 on October 29, to be called "Adjusted Compensation Act of 1943." It would provide for discharge credit of $2.50 per day up to 500 days for veterans of overseas service and $2.00 per day for veterans of home service. The amount of this adjusted service credit would be payable in bonds which would not be redeemable before a lapse of three years from date of payment except where the bonds are assigned for (1) payment for educational services, (2) payment on the purchase of a home, or (3) payment on the purchase of a farm by a veteran who has demonstrated in prewar years ability and experience in farming. Any veteran who has been issued a bond under this act is found to be qualified to carry out the undertakings required by the Bankhead-Jones Act would be eligible for the benefits of the Act to the same extent as farm tenants.

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